

Senate Resolution 1431

By: Senators Hill of the 4th and Hooks of the 14th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. William Proctor Jones; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Mr. William Proctor Jones on July 7, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones was born in Bainbridge, Georgia, spent his childhood years in
5 Savannah and Twin City, and was a beloved son of the late J. Carlyle and Mildred Proctor
6 Jones; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones graduated with honors from Emanuel County Institute, the school his
8 great-grandfather, James E. Cowart, helped found, and where his grandmother, Pearl Cowart
9 Proctor, earned the first diploma; and

10 WHEREAS, while in high school, Mr. Jones was active in the marching band, was a master
11 member of the 4-H Club, and worked as a radio DJ for WJAT Radio, Swainsboro; and

12 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
13 States Marine Corps and earned a bachelor's degree from George Washington University;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, he dedicated 34 years to the United States Senate, starting his career as a 4-H
16 intern for Senator Richard B. Russell and served as the senator's special assistant and
17 eventually appropriations staff director; and

18 WHEREAS, regarded as one of the top five most powerful staffers in the Senate, Mr. Jones
19 was responsible for funding federal activities, was known in Congress and in the scientific
20 community as a fierce advocate for basic-science funding, and helped to ensure adequate
21 money was appropriated to key groundbreaking scientific initiatives; and

22 WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the Senate in 1997, Mr. Jones served as a partner with
23 the legislative consulting firm Johnston and Associates as senior legislative affairs advisor;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones leaves behind many who will cherish his memory, including his wife,
26 Megan Smith; his daughters, Heather and Lisa; his granddaughters, Lauren and Claire; and
27 many other cherished relatives and friends; and

28 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
29 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he
30 made this world a better place in which to live; and

31 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Jones will long be remembered for his
32 love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, brother, father, grandfather, uncle, and
33 friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
35 join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. William Proctor Jones and express their deepest
36 and most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. William Proctor Jones.